

LABEL GUIDELINES FOR CARBON MONOXIDE OR TASTELESS SMOKE TREATED PRODUCTS

In light of recent labeling discrepancies regarding “carbon monoxide” or “tasteless smoke” treated products, here are a few guidelines:

- The product must be labeled with the preservative process stated on the original product label, invoice or box. For example, if the box says “carbon monoxide treated”, the label for retail display **cannot** say “tasteless smoke treated” and vice versa. They are not the same process.
- The word “carbon monoxide” must be spelled out as such and not abbreviated as “CO” or “carbon O.” Similarly if the box says “TS treated”, the retail label must be spelled out to read “tasteless smoke” treated.
- For labels of individually wrapped trays, the statement must be listed after the name of the fish in the ingredient statement. For example, “Ahi, carbon monoxide (a preservative to promote color retention), shoyu, green onions.”
- If the product has been treated with either preservative process, it cannot be labeled as “fresh” or “fresh frozen”.

Also if the product was *previously frozen, it must also be labeled to indicate that, i.e. “product previously frozen.”*

Here are a few sample statements:

For bulk display of poke, sashimi, fillets or other products: On a placard or sign next to the product:

- 1.) Treated with carbon monoxide as a preservative to promote color retention
- 2.) Treated with tasteless smoke as a preservative to promote color retention
- 3.) Preserved with carbon monoxide to promote color retention
- 4.) Preserved with tasteless smoke to promote color retention

For labels of individually wrapped trays: This statement must be listed **after the treated fish or seafood product in the ingredient statement, i.e.** Ahi, carbon monoxide (preservative to promote color retention), shoyu, green onions.

- 1) Tasteless smoke (preservative to promote color retention)
- 2.) Carbon monoxide (preservative to promote color retention)
- 3) Treated with carbon monoxide as a preservative to promote color retention
- 4) Preserved with tasteless smoke to promote color retention

***REMEMBER, “tasteless smoke” and “carbon monoxide” treated is NOT the same process. You must label it according to the original label, invoice or box.**